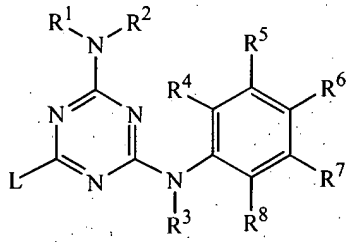
1. (currently amended) A compound of formula



(I')

a pharmaceutically acceptable acid addition salt or a stereochemically isomeric form thereof, wherein

$R^1$ and $R^2$ are each independently selected from hydrogen; hydroxy; amino; $C_{1-6}$alkyl; $C_{1-6}$alkyloxy; $C_{1-6}$alkylcarbonyl; $C_{1-6}$alkyloxycarbonyl; $Ar^1$; mono- or di($C_{1-6}$alkyl)amino; mono- or di($C_{1-6}$alkyl)aminocarbonyl; dihydro-2(3*H*)-furanone; $C_{1-6}$alkyl substituted with one or two substituents each independently selected from amino, imino, aminocarbonyl, aminocarbonylamino, hydroxy, hydroxy$C_{1-6}$alkyloxy, carboxyl, mono- or di($C_{1-6}$alkyl)amino, $C_{1-6}$alkyloxycarbonyl and thienyl; or

$R^1$ and $R^2$ taken together may form pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, morpholinyl, azido or mono- or di($C_{1-6}$alkyl)amino$C_{1-4}$alkylidene;

$R^3$ is one of hydrogen, $Ar^1$, $C_{1-6}$alkylcarbonyl, $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{1-6}$alkyloxycarbonyl, and $C_{1-6}$alkyl substituted with $C_{1-6}$alkyloxycarbonyl; and

$R^4$, $R^5$, $R^7$ and $R^8$ are each independently selected from hydrogen, hydroxy, halo, $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{1-6}$alkyloxy, cyano, aminocarbonyl, nitro, amino, trihalomethyl or trihalomethyloxy ;

$R^6$ is aminocarbonyl;

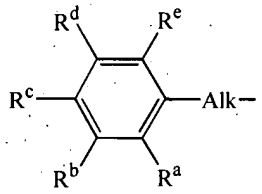
L is one of $C_{1-10}$alkyl; $C_{3-10}$alkenyl; $C_{3-10}$alkynyl; and $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl; or

L is $C_{1-10}$alkyl substituted with one or two substituents independently selected from the group consisting of $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl; indolyl or indolyl substituted with one, two, three or four substituents each independently selected from halo, $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{1-6}$alkyloxy, cyano, aminocarbonyl, nitro, amino, trihalomethyl, trihalomethyloxy, or $C_{1-6}$alkylcarbonyl; and phenyl or phenyl substituted with one, two, three, four or five substituents each independently selected from halo, hydroxy, $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{1-6}$alkyloxy, cyano, aminocarbonyl, nitro, amino, trihalomethyl, trihalomethyloxy, or $C_{1-6}$alkylcarbonyl; and,

$Ar^1$ is phenyl, or phenyl substituted with one, two or three substituents each independently selected from halo, $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{1-6}$alkyloxy, cyano, nitro or trifluoromethyl.

2. (previously presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein $R^1$ and $R^2$ are each independently selected from hydrogen, $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $Ar^1$ or mono- or di($C_{1-6}$alkyl)aminocarbonyl; or $R^1$ and $R^2$ taken together may form pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl or morpholinyl; $R^3$ is hydrogen, $C_{1-6}$alkyl or $Ar^1$; and $Ar^1$ is phenyl, or phenyl substituted with one, two or three substituents each independently selected from halo, $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{1-6}$alkyloxy, cyano, nitro or trifluoromethyl; and

L is a radical of formula




wherein Alk is $C_{1-6}$alkanediyl;

$R^a$, $R^b$, $R^c$, $R^d$, $R^e$, $R^4$, $R^5$, $R^7$ and $R^8$ are each independently selected from hydrogen, halo, $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{1-6}$alkyloxy, cyano, aminocarbonyl, nitro, amino, trihalomethyl or trihalomethyloxy; or

$R^a$ and $R^b$ taken together may form a bivalent radical of formula

-CH=CH-$NR^9$- (a-1),

-$NR^9$-CH=CH- (a-2),

wherein $R^9$ is hydrogen or $C_{1-4}$alkyl.

3. (previously presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein L is $C_{3-10}$alkenyl or $C_{1-2}$alkyl substituted with one or two substituents independently selected from $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl; indolyl or indolyl substituted with one, two, three or four substituents each independently selected from halo, $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{1-6}$alkyloxy, cyano, aminocarbonyl, nitro, amino, trihalomethyl, trihalomethyloxy, $C_{1-6}$alkylcarbonyl; phenyl or phenyl substituted with one, two, three, four or five substituents each independently selected from halo, hydroxy, $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{1-6}$alkyloxy, cyano, aminocarbonyl, nitro, amino, trihalomethyl, trihalomethyloxy, $C_{1-6}$alkylcarbonyl.

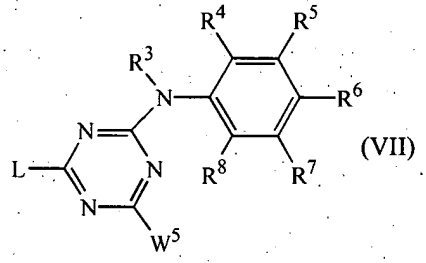
4. (previously presented) A compound according to claim 3 wherein L is 2,6-dichloro-phenylmethyl.

6. (previously presented) A compound according to claim 4 wherein $NR^1R^2$ is other than amino.

11. (previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and a therapeutically active amount of a compound as claimed claim 1.

18 (previously presented) A method of treating a subject suffering from HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) infection comprising administering to the subject a therapeutically effective amount of the compound of claim 1.

19. (currently amended) A compound of formula (VII),



(VII)

wherein

~~$R^1$ and $R^2$ are each independently selected from hydrogen; hydroxy; amino; $C_{1-6}$alkyl; $C_{1-6}$alkyloxy; $C_{1-6}$alkylcarbonyl; $C_{1-6}$alkyloxycarbonyl; $Ar^1$; mono- or di($C_{1-6}$alkyl)amino; mono- or di($C_{1-6}$alkyl)aminocarbonyl; dihydro-2(3*H*)-furanone; $C_{1-6}$alkyl substituted with one or two substituents each independently selected from amino, imino, aminocarbonyl, aminocarbonylamino, hydroxy, hydroxy$C_{1-6}$alkyloxy, carboxyl, mono- or di($C_{1-6}$alkyl)amino, $C_{1-6}$alkyloxycarbonyl and thienyl; or~~

~~$R^1$ and $R^2$ taken together may form pyrrolidinyl, piperidinyl, morpholinyl, azido or mono- or di($C_{1-6}$alkyl)amino$C_{1-4}$alkylidene;~~

$R^3$ is <u>one of</u> hydrogen, $Ar^1$, $C_{1-6}$alkylcarbonyl, $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{1-6}$alkyloxycarbonyl, <u>and</u> $C_{1-6}$alkyl substituted with $C_{1-6}$alkyloxycarbonyl; and

$R^4$, $R^5$, $R^7$ and $R^8$ are each independently selected from hydrogen, hydroxy, halo, $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{1-6}$alkyloxy, cyano, aminocarbonyl, nitro, amino, trihalomethyl or trihalomethyloxy ;

$R^6$ is aminocarbonyl;

$W^5$ is halo;

L is <u>one of</u> $C_{1-10}$alkyl; $C_{3-10}$alkenyl; $C_{3-10}$alkynyl; <u>and</u> $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl; or

L is $C_{1-10}$alkyl substituted with one or two substituents independently selected from the group consisting of $C_{3-7}$cycloalkyl; indolyl or indolyl substituted with one, two, three or four

substituents each independently selected from halo, $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{1-6}$alkyloxy, cyano, aminocarbonyl, nitro, amino, trihalomethyl, trihalomethyloxy, or $C_{1-6}$alkylcarbonyl; and phenyl or phenyl substituted with one, two, three, four or five substituents each independently selected from halo, hydroxy, $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{1-6}$alkyloxy, cyano, aminocarbonyl, nitro, amino, trihalomethyl, trihalomethyloxy, or $C_{1-6}$alkylcarbonyl; and,

$Ar^1$ is phenyl, or phenyl substituted with one, two or three substituents each independently selected from halo, $C_{1-6}$alkyl, $C_{1-6}$alkyloxy, cyano, nitro or trifluoromethyl.